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Date: July 15, 2005

To: Physicians
Nurse Practitioners
Physician Assistants
Local Health Departments

From: Jeffrey P. Davis, MD
Chief Medical Officer and State Epidemiologist
for Communicable Diseases

Re: Pertussis Protocols

Attached are copies of the Division of Public Health's protocols for investigation, follow-up and case management of pertussis cases in Wisconsin. The attached documents are:

- 1) Definitions
- 2) Wisconsin Pertussis Algorithms: I. Testing, treatment, isolation and reporting -- overall strategy
- 3) Wisconsin Pertussis Algorithms: II. Clinical evaluation and management of persons with a cough who have not yet been tested for pertussis
- 4) Wisconsin Pertussis Algorithms: III. Clinical protocols for management of contacts to confirmed or probable pertussis (page 2)
- 5) Wisconsin Pertussis Algorithms: II & III. Clinical evaluation and management of pertussis (Algorithms II and III combined on one page)

Note: Document #5 does not contain additional protocols but is a compilation of documents #3 and #4. It can be used in lieu of those documents.

In developing these revised protocols and algorithms the Division of Public Health convened an expert panel of physicians, nurses, epidemiologists and laboratory staff for advice and guidance. The panel represented public and private health care providers with extensive experience and interest in the investigation and control of pertussis. A listing of panel participants is attached. We greatly appreciate their efforts and commitment to this project. Input was also obtained from the Wisconsin Council on Immunization Practices.

These protocols are being distributed to you for your immediate use. They will be posted in PDF format on the Immunization Program website at: www.dhfs.state.wi.us/immunization. Please take the time to become familiar with the protocols and distribute them to colleagues and co-workers who have responsibility for managing pertussis cases.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Immunization Program at (608) 267-9959.